

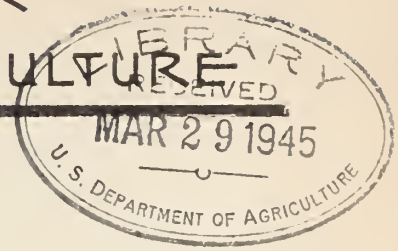
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ALBUQUERQUE BRANCH
P. O. Box 1348
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Phone 2-6202

220 East Central

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AMERICAN SILVICS AND SILVICULTURE

By Edward G. Cheyney

The University of Minnesota Press, 1942

Review by Mr. Quincy Randles, Assistant Regional Forester
Division of Timber Management, Forest Service.

AMERICAN SILVICS AND SILVICULTURE is a book of 467 pages. The author states that he attempted to bring together a knowledge of the factors that influence the growth of trees in competition with each other, of the types in which American species group themselves and of the silvical characteristics of the more important species.

The material is presented in four major parts. Part I treats the major and minor silvical factors; Part II outlines the forest regions of the United States; Part III gives the silvicultural systems and the applications of those to the various forest types, while Part IV covers the silvical descriptions of the more important species. The organization of the material into the four major headings, treating first the factors influencing growth followed by a description of the forest regions is a logical arrangement.

The magnitude of the job of organizing the available data for the United States and the inability of one man to become thoroughly familiar with the great variety of species and conditions can be imagined and some errors are noted. These are not unduly serious and the result is good and the student of Forestry will find in one place a wealth of usable material in all four parts. The practicing forester will be interested in Part I and especially Part III where the extensive experience and research in Europe have been taken and the general pattern there developed used by the author in outlining practices for use in the United States.

THE ECONOMY OF ABUNDANCE

By Stuart Chaso

The MacMillan Company, 1934.

In the recent book entitled, THIS IS MY BEST, America's greatest living authors represented have made their own selections, and given their reasons why. Stuart Chaso made his selection from THE ECONOMY OF ABUNDANCE, published in 1934. His reason for its selection is quoted:

"I do not know whether it is my best writing - the style strikes me as a bit ornate in 1942 - but I think the book represents my economic philosophy more completely than any other I have written. I feel that the thesis is more im-



portant today than it was when I wrote it. This war promises to increase mechanical energy and the capacity to produce in this country to heights hitherto inconceivable. When it ends we shall have a productive machine capable of smothering us with goods. Engineers and technicians for the first time in our history have been given the green light for all-out production. Look at Mr. Ford's bomber plant at Willow Run. Money does not count much any longer; only men and materials count, and the techniques of abundance.

After the war shall we stifle this potential output, retreat to an economy of high prices and restricted output, and let the magnificent new plant rot? Or is there a people's revolution on, as Mr. Wallace says, a raging political demand to stop such nonsense, and to let the goods come through? The war may prove to be that long-sought catalyst which will explode old financial barriers and bring the age of abundance really into its own. At any rate, the technological imperatives, that I have described here, seem to be marching on."

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